



# Lahontan Water Board Program Fact Sheet FY 2014-15

## ***Nonpoint Source Pollution Control (NPS)***

### Overview

The purpose of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (NPS Program) is to restore waters impacted by NPS pollution and protect unimpaired waterbodies. The primary causes of NPS pollution impairment or threat in the Region are from forestry, urban runoff, hydro-modification, abandoned mines, and grazing. Restoration on forested lands and grazing are high priorities in the NPS Program while pollution from urban runoff, hydromodification, timber, fuels management and abandoned mines are primarily addressed through other programs. Federal resources under the 319(h) program allocates 1.9 PY for the NPS work. Staff resources are focused on total maximum daily load (TMDL) implementation priorities.

The Region's NPS Program in part implements the statewide ***Plan for California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program***, and is consistent with the statewide ***Policy for Implementation and Enforcement of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program***.

### Goals

The NPS Program is currently focusing on the management of grazing, restoration projects on forested lands, and implementation of actions identified in adopted TMDLs. For the remainder of FY 14/15 and for FY15/16, NPS Program goals include:

#### **Grazing Management:**

- Implement the Grazing Waiver for Bridgeport Valley/East Walker River Watershed
- Support implementation of grazing management practices to improve water quality in impaired waterbodies.
- Assist the Statewide Grazing Regulatory Action Project (GRAP) to explore a range of options to enhance environmental benefits from grazing, protect beneficial uses of surface and groundwater, and address potential impacts to water quality posed by grazing.

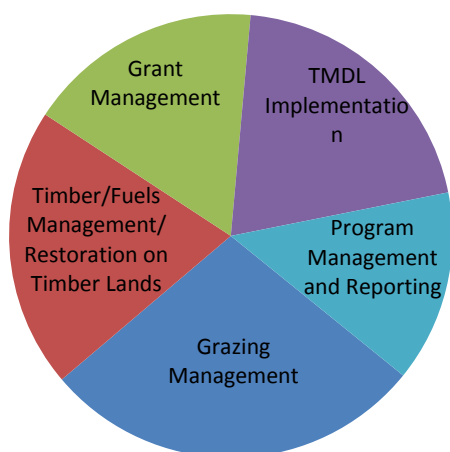
#### **Restoration Projects on Forested Lands:**

- Review and inspect projects on to prevent soil erosion and discharge to surface waters, stream course damage, compaction or removal of riparian soil and vegetation, and soil and plant loss in wetlands.

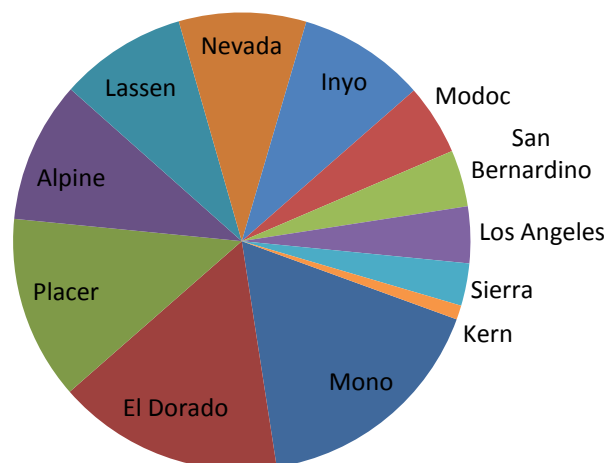
#### **Implementation of Actions Identified in Adopted TMDLs:**

- Review TMDL implementation activities specified in the Lake Tahoe, Truckee River, Squaw Creek, Heavenly Valley Creek, and Blackwood Creek TMDLs.
- Conduct environmental education and outreach activities to inform public/youth of sources of water quality impairment.

## Staff Activities



## County



## Accomplishments

- Coordinated with the statewide GRAP work team to draft an Issue Paper, and conducted four 2014 Focused Listening Sessions with industry, government, academia, and conservation community stakeholders. Additional public listening sessions were held in San Luis Obispo, Redding, and Bishop in January, 2015.
- Collected and analyzed over 250 water quality samples from 65 stream and river sites in the eastern Sierra Nevada to evaluate bacteria concentrations and its sources.
- Continued implementation of "Rivers and Ranches" grant by coordinating with U.C. partners to provide monitoring and technical expertise; began implementation on five different projects with the projection of using over \$350k in grant funds specifically for water quality improvements.
- Brought new Waste Discharge Requirements for Tahoe Key Property Owners Association to the Water Board for adoption in July 2014.
- Managed eight technical assistance grant projects that implement adopted TMDLs (including completion of two projects and addition of five new projects).
- Provided oversight and inspections of a major stream restoration and stabilization project on the Upper Truckee River.
- Reviewed environmental documents and conducted inspections at 17 timber and vegetation management and restoration project sites on federal forest lands.
- Participated in the South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition to provide water quality activities to all campuses in the Lake Tahoe Unified School District (LTUSD) including the Annual Watershed Education Summit in Blackwood Canyon (with LTUSD, North Tahoe, and Truckee high school students)

No Performance targets established for FY 2013-14

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Though no formal performance targets for the NPS Program, each Region is required to submit an annual report to US EPA to report activities under the federal 319(h) program.